TRAVELER'S BRIEFING

CROATIA

(Republika Hrvatska)

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BACKGROUND

Full Name: The Republic of Croatia

Capital: Zagreb

Population: 4,676,865 (est)

Type of government: Parliamentary Dem

Head of government: Pres Stjepan Mesi

PM

Official language(s) Serbo-Croatian

Economy: Socialist transforming into capitalist

Religions: Catholic (76.5%) Orthodox (11

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: Embassy Zagreb personnel are exercising caution in pursuing official travel to regions of Croatia which border directly on Serbia . Facilities for out the country.

International Airport: Zagreb

Flights from Frankfurt: Lufthansa, Croatia Air

Other methods of arrival: Ship/Road/rail

U.S. Embassy address:Andrije Hebranga 2, 41000 Zagreb. Tel: 385-1-455-5500/7029; FAX: 385-1-481-7300.

Transportation: Public transportation: Good.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Good.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Fair.

Availability of roadside assistance: Fair. Driver's licenses and permits issued by US authorities are valid. Emergency road help may be reached by dialing 987. Road condition and

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: For US military and civilian personnel deploying under USEUCOM authority Country clearance is not required. All other official travel to Croatia requires approval from SECDEF/USDP and DoS, except for the following, which do not require Special Area clearance (Country/Theater clearance is required): Personnel assigned to EUCOM and personnel who are one-for-one replacements for personnel assigned to units/positions currently in Croatia. General officer travel and all unit movements, especially those involving special logistical arrangements, should be reported in advance to USDAO Zagreb. Military and civilian personnel deploying to Croatia in support of SFOR are exempt from passport and visa requirements. Identification card and orders are required. For all leave travel, passport is required. Visas

All personnel are subject to normal customs procedures.

no-fee passports are required. Visas may be obtained in

The Internet home page of the Croatian Embassy is http://www.croatiaemb.org.

HELPFUL HINTS

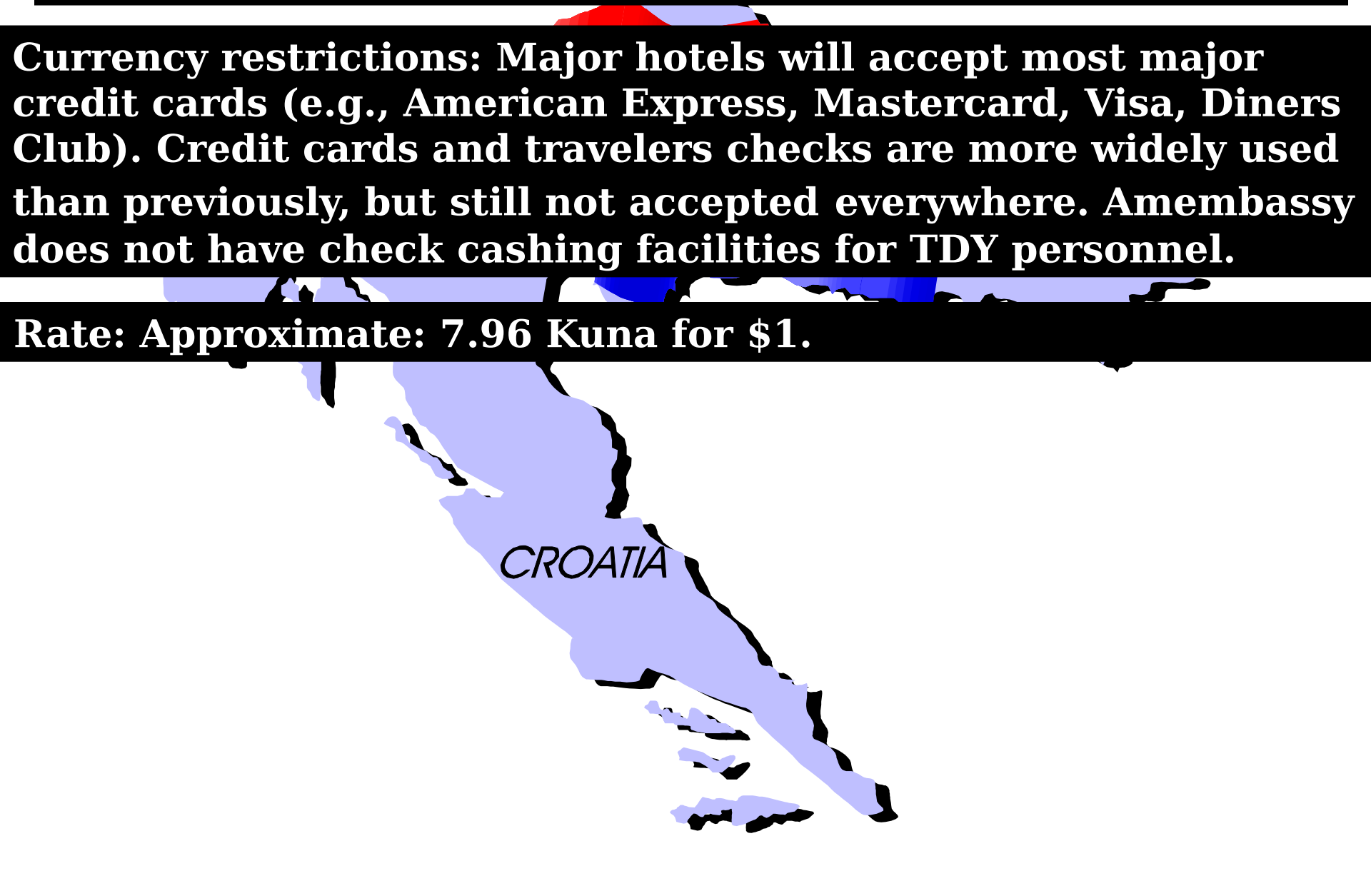
Special restrictions: Croatian authorities require foreigners to register with local police when they first arrive in a new area of the country. This is usually handled in routine fashion during hotel registration. Failure to register is a misdemeanor offense, and some Americans have been subjected to expulsion from the country and fines. If stopped at a checkpoint, travelers are expected to be courteous and follow instructions. Many parts of the UN-protected areas are under the control of undisciplined militia groups with which the Amembassy has little contact or influence. The Government of Croatia does not recognize U.S. citizenship of persons who are citizens of both Croatia and the United States. This may hinder the ability of the U.S. consular officer to assist persons who do not enter Croatia on a U.S. passport. Dual nationals

The Amembassy will observe the following Croatian and American holidays in 1998: 1, 6, 19 Jan; 16 Feb; 13 Apr; 1, 25, 30 May; 22 Jun; 4 Jul; 5, 15 Aug; 7 Sep; 12 Oct; 1, 11, 28 Nov; 25, 26 Dec..

MONEY

Currency restrictions: Major hotels will accept most major credit cards (e.g., American Express, Mastercard, Visa, Diners Club). Credit cards and travelers checks are more widely used than previously, but still not accepted everywhere. Amembassy does not have check cashing facilities for TDY personnel.

Rate: Approximate: 7.96 Kuna for $1.

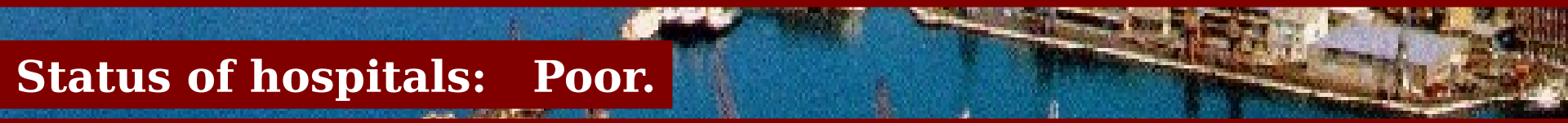


HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, industrial pollution and heat injuries (limited)

Availability of medical services: Fair. Health facilities in Croatia, although generally of Western caliber, are under severe strain. Some medicines are in short supply. Doctors and hospitals may expect immediate cash payment for health services. The number of private medical and dental practitioners is substantial, and pharmacies stock a variety of medicines not readily available through public health

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Croatia. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.



Status of hospitals: Poor.

Health Precautions:None

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B (recommended), TB (recommended) MMR (recommended) and tetanus-disptheria boosters (recommended).

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance: Required for all military personnel traveling to Macedonia not in support of operations in the Balkans. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through G3/S3 channels.

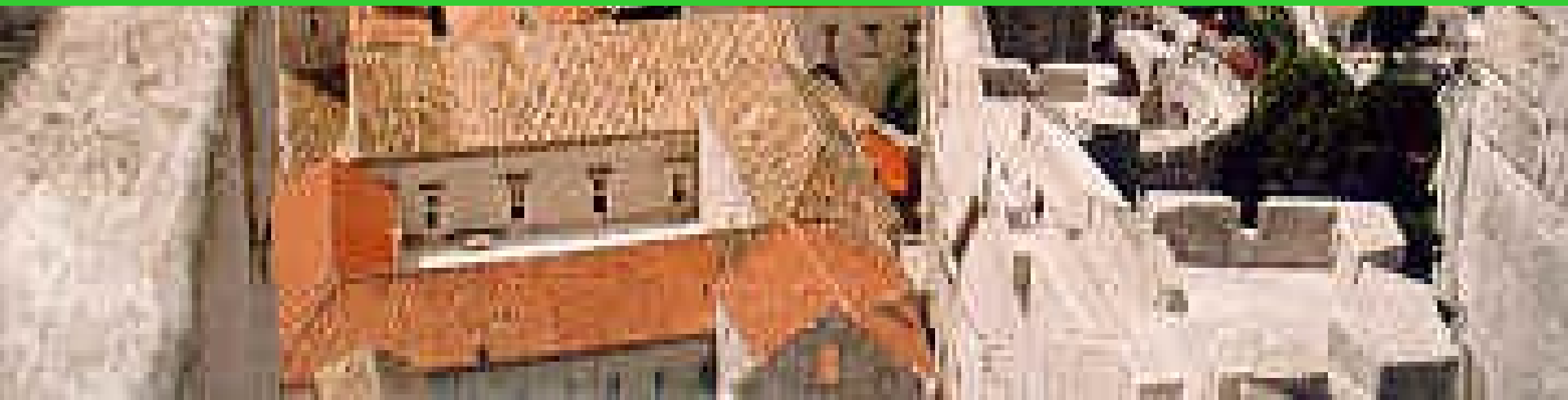
Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer or equivalent. Additionally, mine awareness training would be beneficial, although it is not required. De-mining is not complete; marking of mined areas is similarly incomplete.All military personnel, civilian government personnel, individuals and civilian contractors must attend SFOR training prior to

There are no known indigenous terrorist groups in Croatia. Since gaining independence in 1991, Croatia has heavy congestion on major routes on weekends (towards the coast, for example) and in major cities during rush hour. Parking can be difficult and expensive in city centers. Drivers can be aggressive and, in Zagreb, motorists must also pay special attention to streetcars. Primary roads are adequate, but most have only

CRIME

Criminal Activities: Croatia has a relatively low crime rate, and violent crime is rare. Foreigners do not appear to be singled out; however, as in many cities, displays of wealth increase chances of becoming the victim of a pickpocket or mugger. Such crimes are more likely to occur in bus or railroad stations. The loss or theft of a U.S. passport should be reportedimmediately to the local police and the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate

Croatia is strict on: Registering with the police within 48 hours of arrival.



WEATHER

http://cnn

CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Military personnel deploying in support of SFOR operations may wear uniforms. Personnel may possess and carry arms if authorized to do so by their orders.

This concludes the TRAVELLER'S BRIEFING for

CROATIA